

Connecticut General Assembly
Appropriations Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education
Public Hearing, March 3, 2015

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.

My name is Anna Rafti and I am writing as a parent that loves her children's Magnet School.

I attended and graduated from a town school, in addition, my children started their education in the same town school that I graduated from. My husband and I decided to look for a Magnet School because we wanted our children exposed to a more diverse environment. We could not be happier with our decision and we are thankful that there are schools like these available to our children.

I love hearing my children when I pick them up from school raving about what a great day they had. I have never heard them say anything negative about their daily experiences since they started at Magnet Schools.

I only see my children grow at these schools. It is such a great feeling to see the Principal and Assistant Principal greet you right when you walk through the school doors every morning. They also are visible at all PTO and school sponsored events. I cannot say enough about my children's teachers, they go above and beyond with communicating with parents and they too come to so many of the PTO and school sponsored events. You have a sense of family and a great community at these schools.

Every child, including my three, have been inspired by their Magnet School. All I ask is to not hurt these schools by not supporting them financially.

I thank you for the opportunity to submit my comments.

Respectfully,

Anna Rafti, Suffield, CT
Parent and Secretary of PTO at the GEHMS
Parent at the AAE